

CLAIMS

SUB A3>

1. A method of constructing a catalog of object references to objects stored within a network, the network including a plurality of interconnected computers with at least one computer storing the catalog, each
- 5 computer storing the catalog being designated a cataloging site, and the other computers on the network storing a plurality of objects and being designated source sites, the method comprising:
- 10 running on each source site a program which processes the contents of objects stored on the source site, thereby generating for each processed object meta data which describes the object;
- transmitting the generated meta data from each source site to at least one cataloging site; and
- aggregating the transmitted meta data at each cataloging site to generate the catalog of object references.

ADD A4>